

The steamer Asia arrived at Halifax, August 1, with Liverpool dates to Saturday, the 21st ult. The following is a summary of her news:

Mr. Roebuck's motion for a vote of censure, made in the House of Commons, has been rejected by a vote of 190. Consequently, the Palmerston Ministry still exists. It was rumored that Sir William Molesworth is to succeed Lord John Russell as Colonial Secretary.

There is nothing decisive as yet from the seat of war. The general tone of the news is not favorable to the Allies, although they had repulsed numerous sorties of the Russians. The Turks and Sardinians had returned to Balaklava, where a new expedition was fitting out, designed either to attack Odessa or relieve the Turkish army in Anatolia, which was in a critical situation.

The Allies continued to erect great works preliminary to another assault on the Malakoff. Three successive sorties were made by the Russians upon the French on the night of the 15th and repulsed. Another sortie, made on the English on the 17th, was repulsed, and an attack on the 18th, against the batteries near Careening Bay, met with no better success. The Russian ships were beginning to suffer from the fire of the French.

A correspondent of the London *Venez* writes on the 11th July: "We are still far from the works of the enemy, and, as the space between us is swept in every direction by Russian projectiles, our approaches progress very slowly."

In the attack on Negodet, by the English frigate Harriet, on the 24th of June, forty-seven Russian merchant ships were destroyed, amounting, in the aggregate, to twenty thousand tons.

The steamship Pacific, from Australia, arrived at Plymouth on the 26th ultimo, with £150,000 in gold dust.

Australia is quiet. Gold coming in about the same quantities as usual.

The large steamship Great Britain had cleared for thirty thousand ounces of gold.

Admiral Nachimoff was killed at Sebastopol during the attack on the 11th of July.

The report that Prince Gortschakoff had received large reinforcements was fully confirmed.

In Asia the Russian army was investing Kars. Another detachment was advancing on Kutais, and were hard pressed by the Turks at Batoum. The Russians were bringing their siege guns into position, and as they held the roads to Batoum the situation of the Turks was very critical.

The reduction of the Austrian army in the Principality continued.

In the Baltic the Allied fleets were reconnoitering the approaches to Abo.

The Russian official journals complain that on July 13 six English boats, under a flag of truce, entered the harbor of Kauma and plundered the shipping until driven off by the shore batteries.

Austria has addressed a circular to the German Diet strongly favoring peace, and threatening to hold the Principality while hostilities continued.

She further asked the Diet to maintain its present attitude. To this the Diet replied that there were no circumstances to call for fresh measures, and that it does not contemplate extending its present obligations or engagements. Most of the smaller German States were disarming.

Denmark had refused to abolish the sound dues.

Don Escalante has been appointed Spanish Minister to the United States.

The rupture between Rome and Spain on account of the church property bill is complete. The Papal charge having demanded his passports.

The Black Warrior affair has been definitively settled by an indemnity of \$20,000,000.

Pelissier, whose character suffered much after the repulse of the 18th of June, was regaining confidence, and from the strength of the French works now close advanced toward the Malakoff, there is a probability of its early capture.

A dispatch from General Simpson is published, giving an account of the embarkation of the body of Lord Raglan for England. Pelissier placed a garland of immortelles on the coffin, and the French troops formed an avenue of men six miles long, from the camp to the sea.

The following are the latest dispatches. Under date of July 16, 4 p. m., Gen. Pelissier telegraphs:

"The enemy, who had for some days endeavored to stop our left approaches in front of the Malakoff Tower, attempted last night to drive us back, but they were repulsed by the first division of the second corps. Three times the Russians threw their assault upon our trenches with their usual shouting, but after each attempt they were compelled to retreat by the steady fire and calm attitude of our soldiers, leaving behind them many of their slain."

July 17, Gen. Simpson telegraphs: "Nothing of importance has occurred. The army is in good health." July 18, he telegraphs: "A sortie made on the left attack was repulsed with only three casualties on the British side."

The French have cleared Kamish of all suspicious persons, and have established a municipality.

The British General Eyre has had a leg amputated. General Sir John Campbell died within Sebastopol, and, under a flag of truce, his sword was returned.

GERMAN RELATIONS.—It is stated in Vienna that a better understanding now exists between the Austrian and Prussian Cabinets, and that their action in the Federal Diet will be also a more harmonious one.

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## Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

1. Matthew Thornton, of New Hampshire, was born in Ireland 1714, and 62 years old in 1776, died in 1803, aged 89 years.

2. John Witherspoon, of New Jersey, was born in Scotland 1723, and 54 years old in 1776, died in 1794, aged 73 years.

3. Robert Morris, of Pennsylvania, was born in England 1773, and 43 years old in 1776, died in 1806, aged 73 years.

4. James Smith, of Pennsylvania, was born in Ireland, and was 40 years old in 1776, died in 1806, aged 36 years.

5. George Taylor, of Pennsylvania, was born in Ireland 1716, and 60 years old in 1776, died in 1781, aged 65 years.

6. James Wilson, of Pennsylvania, was born in Scotland 1742, and 34 years old in 1776, died in 1798, aged 56 years.

7. Button Gwinnett, of Georgia, was born in England 1722, and 54 years old in 1776, died in 1778, aged 56 years.

8. Francis Lewis, of New Jersey, was born in Wales, Great Britain, in the year 1713, and 63 years old in 1776, died in 1800, aged 87 years.

It is worthy of remark, that out of the entire number, 56, there were not less than 8 of foreign birth, which is one-seventh of the whole number that were willing to sign our Magna Charta, thereby risking their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, to support the Independence of the Republic of the United States.

Appointments by the President.

Thomas A. Hendricks, of Indiana, to be Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the place of John Wilson, removed.

Josiah Minot, of New Hampshire, to be Commissioner of Pensions, in the place of Loren P. Waldo, resigned.

Murray McDaniel, of Illinois, to be Fifth Auditor of the Treasury, in the place of Josiah Minot, appointed Commissioner of Pensions.

From The New York Daily News.

Innocence and the Snake.

Artless and beautiful.

Airy and wild.

Temper that endears.

The innocent child.

Softly his sibilant hair.

Waved in the light.

O'er his shoulders bare.

Dimpled and white.

Wild flowers looked upward.

His blue eyes to meet.

Then bent again to earth.

His little, light feet.

Fearless his angle eyes.

Gazed on the snake.

Smiles, round his lips of love.

Played as he spoke.

"See! what a store of wild.

Blossoms are here!"

Will thou have one of them?

This shall be thine!"

In his small finger.

A lily he holds.

Why doth the innocent shrink.

Back in his fold?

Spirit of Evil.

By innocence met.

Dost thou, so lightly.

Thy purpose forget?

Guileless and beautiful.

Child of the sky.

Set thou no danger, love.

In that cold eye?

Knowest thou a spell, boy.

The false one to charm!

Yes, 'tis thy purity.

Shields thee from harm.

LIFE.

We are born—we laugh—we weep;

We love—we droop—we die;

Alas! wherefore do we laugh or weep?

Why do we live, or die?

Who knows that secret deep?

Alas, not I!

Why doth the violet spring.

Unseen by human eye?

Why do the radiant seasons bring.

Sweet thoughts that quickly fly?

Why do our fond hearts cling.

To things that die?

We toil—through pain and wrong;

We fight—and die;

We love and lose, and then, ere long.

Stone-dead we lie.

Life! 'tis all thy song.

Endure—and die!"

POETICAL PORTRAITS.

BY ROBERT MACNICHOL.

The following lines, published a number of years ago, will be read with interest, and we therefore present them to our readers, believing they will be duly appreciated:

SHAKESPEARE.

His wit was the wizard spell.

The spirit to enchain.

His grasp o'er Nature fell.

Creation owned his reign.

MILTON.

His spirit was the home.

Of aspirations high.

A temple whose huge dome.

Was hidden in the sky.

THOMSON.

The seasons as they roll.

Shall be the music of his song.

And graven on the scroll.

Of nature, life, thy song.

GRAY.

Soaring on pinions proud.

The lightning of his eye.

Shall be the black thunder-cloud.

He passes swiftly by.

BURNS.

He seized his country's lyre.

With ardent grasp and strong;

And made his soul of fire.

Dissolve itself in song.

SHAKESPEARE.

Where Neomancy flings.

O'er Eastern lands her spell.

Sustained on Fate's wheel.

His spirit loves to dwell.

COLERIDGE.

Magician, whose dread spell.

Working in pale moonlight.

From Superstition's cell.

Invokes each placid life.

WORDSWORTH.

He hung his harp on.

Philosophy's pure shrine;

And placed by Nature's throne.

Composed each placid line.

CAMPBELL.

With all that Nature's fire.

Can lend to polished art.

He strikes his graceful lyre.

To thrill warm the heart.

SCOTT.

He sings, and lo! Romance.

Stems from his morning urn.

While Chivalry's bright lance.

And nodding plumes return.

WILSON.

His strain, like holy hymn.

Upon the ear doth fall.

On the heart's ear doth fall.

In mountain vale remote.

HEMANS.

To bid the big bear start.

Unchallenged from his shrine.

And the quivering hand.

With pity's voice, are thine.

SHELLEY.

A solitary rock.

In a far distant sea.

Rent by the thunder's shock.

An emblem stands of thee.

MOORE.

Clothed in the rainbow's beam.

Mid strath and pastoral glen.

He sees the Fairies gleam.

Far from the world of men.

BYRON.

Black clouds his forehead bound.

And at his feet were flowers;

Mirth, Madness, Magic found.

In him their keenest powers.

MOORE.

Crowned with perennial flowers.

By wit and genius wove.

Wanders through the bowers.

Of Fancy and of Love.

## More Campfire Accidents.

A mother and her child, four or five years old, were burned to death at Michigan City, last Friday afternoon, by the use of campfires.

The particulars of the affair, as given in the Chicago Press, are heart-rending. The family of Mr. Doyle, a provision dealer in Michigan City, had been in the habit of starting a fire in the stove by pouring campfire upon the kindlings and wood, and applying a match.

On Friday afternoon, Mrs. Doyle proceeded to light a fire in order to prepare supper, after her usual custom, and having placed shavings and wood in the stove, commenced pouring the fluid from some vessel upon the fuel. Unhappily, and unperceived by her, some live coals had remained in the stove from the previous day, and the fluid burst into a flame, which, running into the vessel in Mrs. Doyle's hands, exploded it, and covered her and her child, who stood near, with its burning contents. She caught up her child, and throwing it into a bed, endeavored to cover it up, and then rushed out of doors for help.

The neighbors who saw her describe the sight as most appalling; the flames entirely enveloped her, and rose ten feet above her head. She was seen to struggle in a carpet by one of the neighbors, and the fire extinguished, but not until she was horribly burned; so that she died in the extremest agony. The child was dreadfully burned, and died a few hours later in its mother's arms. In view of this and other melancholy accidents connected with the use of campfire and burning fluid, will not the public learn that they are as dangerous as gunpowder.

Another mother and her child, four or five years old, were burned to death at Michigan City, last Friday afternoon, by the use of campfires.

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